



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#14-0281

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: February 18, 2014

TITLE: Resolution to Urge the Florida Legislature to Increase Funding for the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program, Support the State Application Submitted by Broward County for Segment II Beach Re-nourishment, and Advocate on the Federal Level for Issuance of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) Permit and Federal Cost Sharing

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution urging the Florida Legislature to appropriate additional funding to the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program, support funding for the Segment II Beach Re-nourishment project, and advocate on the Federal level for expediting the US Army Corps of Engineers permit as well as seeking Federal cost sharing for the Segment II project.

Background

The Segment II Beach Re-nourishment Project spans a length of 4.9 miles between Hillsboro Inlet and Port Everglades. Approximately 3.54 miles is within the City of Fort Lauderdale, specifically from Flamingo Avenue, South to Terramar Street. The project will consist of 750,000 cubic yards being placed within Segment II, of which 550,000 cubic yards will be placed in the City portion.

Two challenges that exist for the Segment II project are: 1) permitting and 2) funding. Permits need to be obtained from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the USACOE. FDEP issued their permit on January 31, 2014 and the County is still waiting on the issuance of the USACOE permit. One of the purposes of this resolution is to urge the Florida Legislature to advocate for expediting the USACOE permit. Permitting delays have likely delayed the project start date to the end of 2014/early 2015. Note, due to turtle season, fill activity can only occur between Oct 31st through May 1st of each year.

Regarding funding, the cost of Segment II is estimated at \$51 million. Past projects have included cost sharing from Federal, state, and local governments. Federal funding for beach projects is currently non-existent and the County is still waiting on

reimbursement for Segment III (Hollywood to Hallandale) from 2005/2006. This development puts more of a financial burden on state and local governments. The County, as the permittee for the project, has received \$4.7 million from the State and is seeking \$5.2 million in 2014. Based on current State funding for beach projects, this \$5.2 million will not be funded in 2014, therefore this resolution urges the Florida legislature to increase funding to the Beach Management Assistance Program as well as seeking Federal advocacy to restore funding for beach re-nourishment projects.

The intent of this resolution is to express to the Legislature the economic importance of beaches on the local, state, and national economy. A modest investment in protecting our beaches has a high return on investment and preserves our most famous natural asset.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

<i>Funds available as of</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	OBJECT CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Object Code)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Object Code)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
N/A	N/A	N/A	\$	\$	\$
PURCHASE TOTAL ►					\$

Strategic Connections:

This item is a *Commission Annual Action Plan* priority, included within the Policy Agenda.

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Business Development Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 7: Be a well-positioned City within the global economic and tourism markets of the South Florida region, leveraging our airports, port, and rail connections.
- Objective 3: Advance beach resiliency and re-nourishment.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Ready*

Attachment: Exhibit 1: Resolution

Prepared by: Julie Leonard, Assistant Public Works Director – Utilities

Department Director: Hardeep Anand, P.E, Public Works